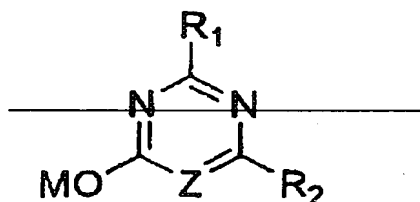


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

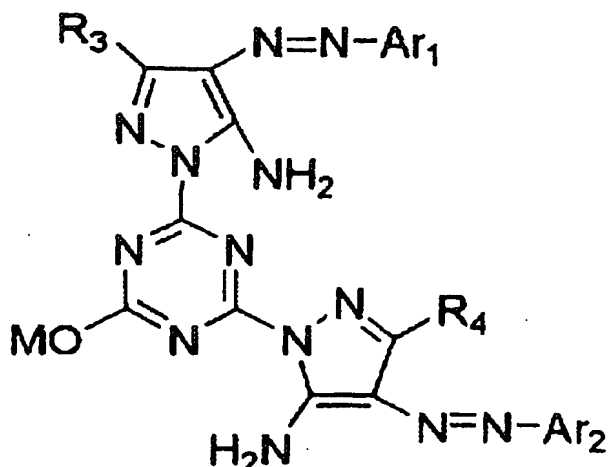
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A dye represented by formula ~~[(1)]~~ (2), (3) or (4):

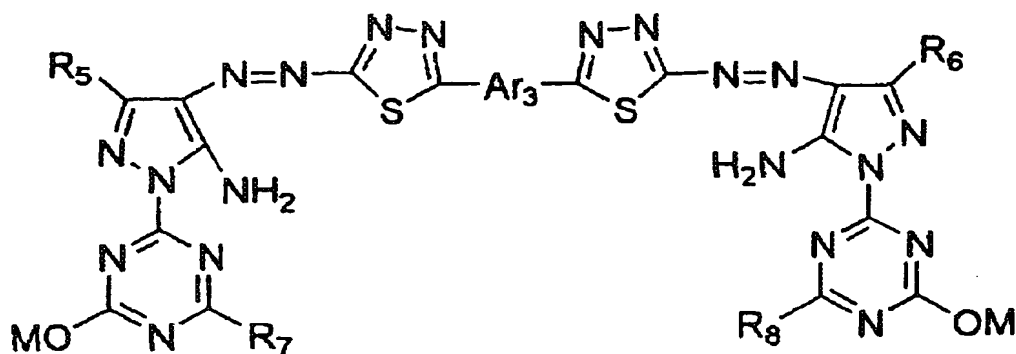


wherein ~~R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> each independently represents a monovalent group, Z~~  
~~represents a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom to which a hydrogen atom or a~~  
~~monovalent group is bonded, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation,~~  
~~provided that the dye has two azo groups~~

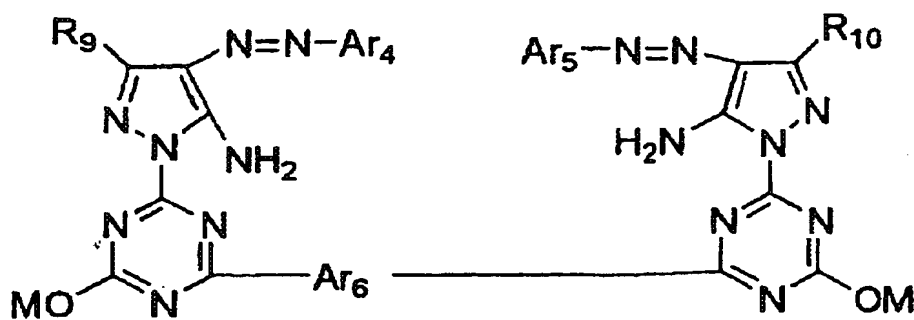


formula (2)

wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  each independently represents a monovalent group,  $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation;

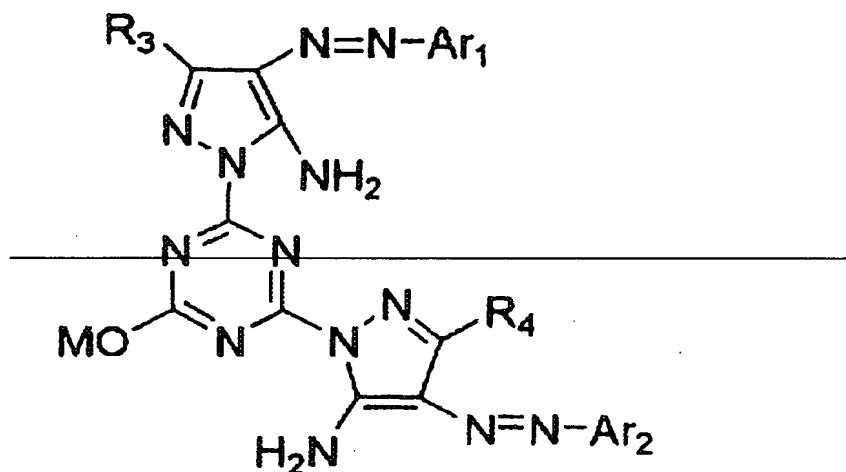
formula (3)

wherein  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  each independently represents a monovalent group,  $Ar_3$  represents a divalent linking group, M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation;

formula (4)

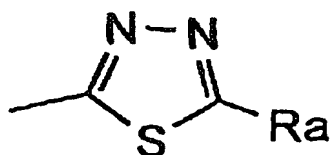
wherein  $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  each independently represents a monovalent group,  $Ar_4$  and  $Ar_5$  each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group,  $Ar_6$  represents a divalent linking group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The dye according to claim 1, wherein the dye represented by formula (1) is a dye represented by formula (2):



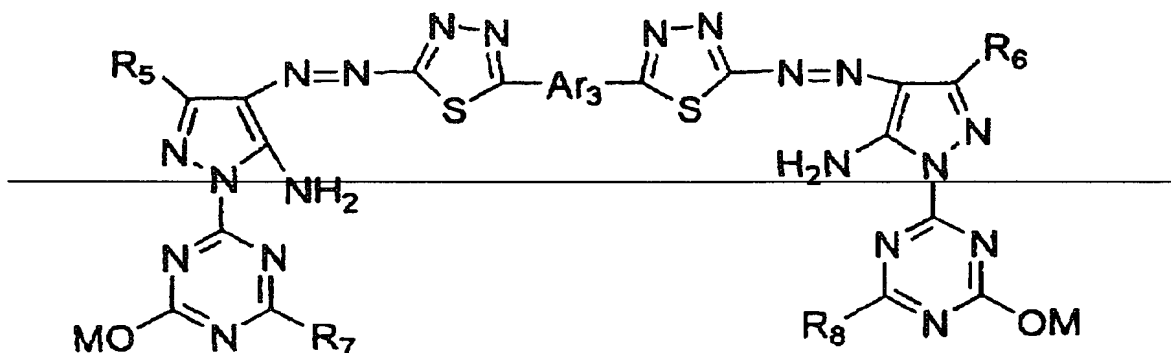
wherein  $R_3$  and  $R_4$  each independently represents a monovalent group,  $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 3 (Original): The dye according to claim 2, wherein  $Ar_1$  and  $Ar_2$  each independently represents a group represented by formula (A):



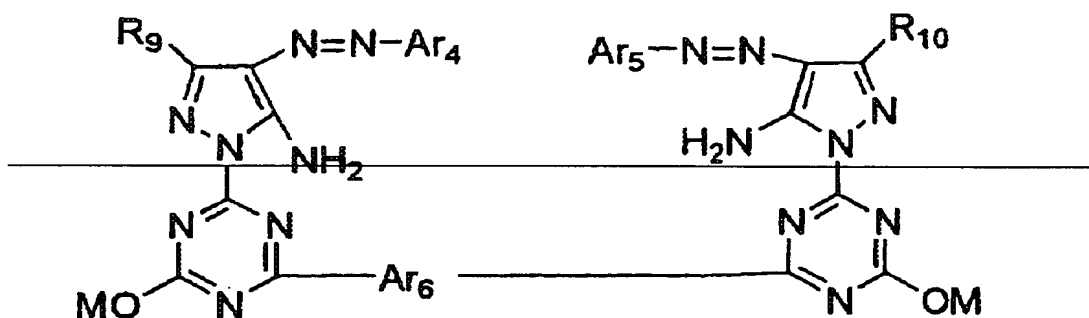
wherein  $R_a$  represents a monovalent group.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The dye according to claim 1, wherein the dye represented by formula (1) is a dye represented by formula (3):



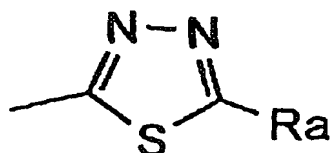
wherein  $R_5$ ,  $R_6$ ,  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  each independently represents a monovalent group,  $Ar_3$  represents a divalent linking group, M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The dye according to claim 1, wherein the dye represented by formula (1) is a dye represented by formula (4):



wherein  $R_9$  and  $R_{10}$  each independently represents a monovalent group,  $Ar_4$  and  $Ar_5$  each independently represents an aryl group or a hetero ring group,  $Ar_6$  represents a divalent linking group, and M represents a hydrogen atom or a cation.

Claim 6 (Original): The dye according to claim 5, wherein Ar<sub>3</sub> and Ar<sub>4</sub> each independently represents a group represented by formula (A):



wherein Ra represents a monovalent group.

Claim 7 (Original): An ink comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An inkjet recording method comprising forming an image by using utilizing an ink according to claim 7.

Claim 9 (Original): An ink sheet comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

Claim 10 (Original): A color toner comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

Claim 11 (Original): A color filter comprising a dye according to any one of claims 1 to 6.